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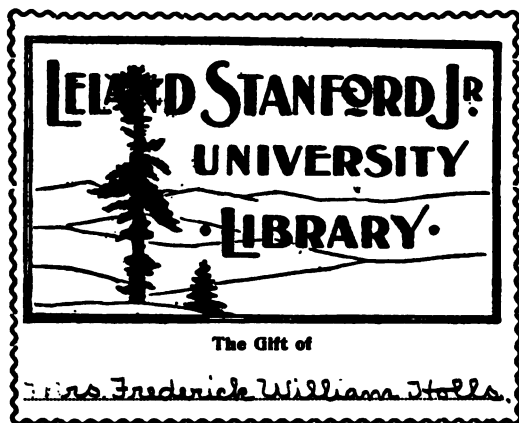
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*In Memoriam*

FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS

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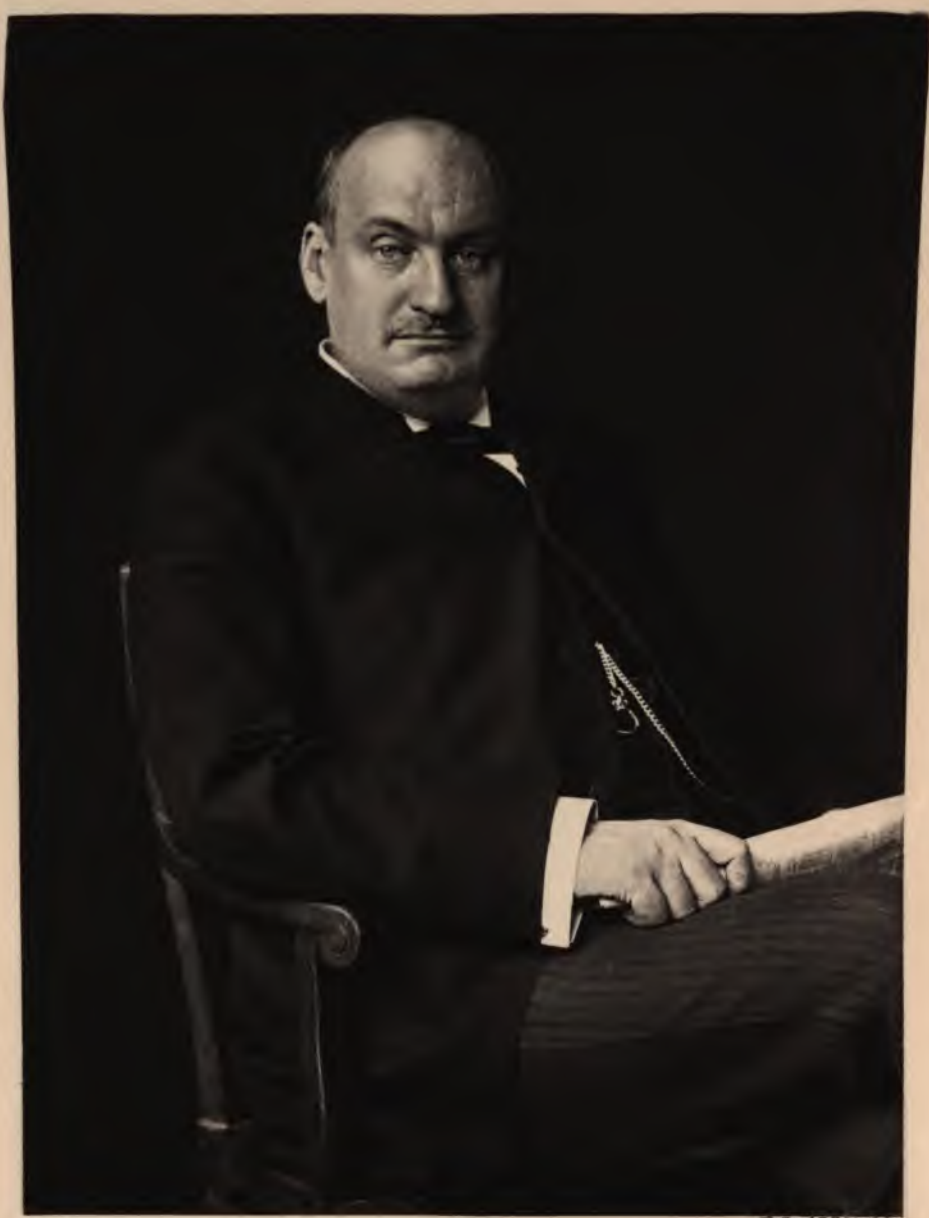


**In Memoriam**

**FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS**







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# In Memoriam

FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS

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THE sudden death of Mr. Holls brought distress to a very wide circle, not only of his friends, but his followers—one might say to his pupils—who did not know him personally.

Indeed, we have had no other instance which illustrated, as his life did, the “public duty of a private citizen.” He had resolutely withdrawn himself from what is called public office, but at the same time he knew that the People rule America, and he knew that no sovereign is worth a straw unless on any occasion he is in the saddle, foremost among those who rule. And so it is that in what are called the private charities, because they are not taken care of by political appointments, he was ready to be at the helm or at the bow, wherever he might be needed most. Thus it was that while he was the counselor most beloved, the first sought for in the most important questions of diplomacy, at the same time he was the adviser who knew best what was to be done in the humblest charities of city life. “He was the companion of princes and he stood unawed before kings.” And the same man who knew how to teach, knew how to instruct a widow in an attic in New York how she should take care of her children. What is more, he understood that he was serving the Good God, whose child he was, as completely in the one case as in the other.

It was then simply a matter of course that with the tidings of his death there came a chill and a tearful regret, and even anxiety, as to the great duties in which he was engaged—how in this enterprise or in that for the coming of the kingdom of God the endeavors which he directed could go forward without his visible presence.

Different organizations, different men and women have tried to express such regret and such anxiety as well as hope with which such a life inspires men, in the several papers which will be found in this volume. It has seemed to Mr. Holls's friends that a memoir of such a life as his ought to be preserved for this generation and for future generations. And while we are to hope and to expect that some such fitting biography of a life so full and so successful shall be prepared, we think it desirable on every account that as an introduction to such a biography this volume shall be printed separately.

The reader of the various resolutions and addresses which are printed here will begin to get some idea of the wide range of Mr. Holls's active life in this country. Beside his work here,—by a certain divine fitness of things, it came about that he was of use to his country, not only in America, but in Europe. His early training in the home of his distinguished father, the ease with which he used the three leading languages of our modern life, enabled him to go and come in Europe, when his country or the world needed him, as easily as he came and went at home. His friendship with the leaders of Europe has been at times of the first value to this nation of ours, which he understood so completely and which he loved so truly. In this volume, however, we only undertake to preserve the public memorials of respect and love which followed immediately on the sudden death of a life so varied and useful. His friends will join with me in the hope that such a biography as I have spoken of will preserve the memories of a life so important, though it was cut short so suddenly.

EDWARD E. HALE

## FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS<sup>1</sup>

IN the sudden death of Mr. Frederick W. Holls, on July 23, this country has lost one of its best-trained and most versatile men of public affairs. Mr. Holls had just completed his forty-sixth year, and was in the very prime of his intellectual power and capacity for usefulness. With an intense American patriotism, he was at the same time a citizen of the larger republic that embraces broad-minded and peace-loving men of all nations.

His father, George Charles Holls, was born in Darmstadt, Germany, in 1824, of a family both distinguished and cultured. The father of George Charles Holls, after retiring from army service in the Napoleonic wars, had spent the remaining period of his life in the direction of public charities for the city of Darmstadt and the surrounding province. George Charles at first chose the calling of a professor of science; and to that end he studied in German and French polytechnic schools. But he soon found himself strongly drawn toward religious and philanthropic work, and in a few years, through intensely interesting experiences, he had made himself both a practical and a theoretical master of such methods as were then in vogue in Germany for the training of destitute children and the carrying on of other forms of social amelioration. He was a friend of

<sup>1</sup> The editor of the *Review of Reviews* was one of Mr. Holls's nearest and dearest friends. This collection of memorials of his life is best introduced to its readers by the following memoir, all too brief, which appeared in the August number of that journal.

Froebel, and all the most distinguished educators and philanthropists of Germany. While still in the twenties, he rendered distinguished service in Silesia, learning the Polish language in order to be of greater use.

It was in 1851 that he yielded to a strong impulse to come to America. He was then only twenty-seven. His first year was spent in teaching German and French in an academy in Ohio while he learned English. In the next year, he was married in Germany, and it was not long before he was called upon to organize the first Lutheran orphan asylum in this country, the location being Zelienople, Butler County, Pa. He remained at the head of that institution for eleven years. It was there that his only son, Frederick William Holls, was born in 1857. In the year 1866, Dr. Holls having meanwhile entered the Lutheran ministry and risen to a high position in the Church, there was established the Wartburg Orphan Farm School, near Mount Vernon, in Westchester County, a few miles from New York City. Dr. Holls was placed in charge of this institution, which during his administration was pronounced by our foremost authorities to be the most admirable and perfect institution of its kind ever known. He was a master of religious music, a man of wide and varied tastes and interests, a writer and contributor to the press, and, in short, a man of the very highest type of usefulness. He died in 1886, when his son, then a member of the New York bar, was entering his thirtieth year.

It is only through some such allusions to the career of his father—a man greater even than his fame—that one can understand the qualities and the career of Frederick William Holls. He graduated with honor at Columbia College in 1878, and from the Law School of the same institution in 1880; but the best part of his education was that which he owed to the training he derived from his father at home as a boy. The

father was as convinced and enthusiastic an American as if his ancestors had come over in the *Mayflower*; yet he knew the value of languages and of a cosmopolitan training, and the son grew up with a complete and easy mastery of two great languages. From his early boyhood, also, he was trained in music, of which he obtained a very extensive and thorough knowledge. He was an amateur organist of greater skill than most professionals.

With a father and grandfather eminent in philanthropy and charitable work, it was natural enough that Mr. Holls should have identified himself early with public movements for the bettering of the condition of the people of New York City. He was for many years a leading officer of the Legal Aid Society, which has protected scores of thousands of poor people against oppression and wrong. He was a director of the Charity Organization Society, was active in tenement-house reform work, and was ready to render service wherever called upon.

He was married, in 1889, to Miss Caroline M. Sayles, daughter of F. C. Sayles, Esq., of Rhode Island, whose death was noted several months ago, and who had recently built, at Pawtucket, R. I., a magnificent memorial library, a picture of which was published in this *Review*, and at the dedication of which Mr. Holls made an address. Mr. and Mrs. Holls, soon after their marriage, made their home on the Hudson River, in the suburbs of Yonkers, where his death occurred. This charming home was a center of hospitality and of cultured life. Many persons of eminence, widely scattered, will long cherish the memory of interesting conversations in Mr. Holls's library, and of rare entertainment in the music-room. Mr. Holls was an omnivorous reader, with a prodigious memory; and he possessed a large and well-selected library, rich in historical, biographical, and political works.

While engaged for some twenty-two or three years in the practice of law in New York City, he was always intensely interested in politics and public questions; and as a Republican, had participated actively in every national campaign for nearly a quarter of a century. He was in regular demand where the campaign committees desired a speaker able to appeal in their own language to Germans of the best class in such cities, especially, as Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Louis. The only elective office which he ever held was that of a member of the great constitutional convention which ten years ago revised the organic law of the State of New York. Ambassador Choate presided over that convention, and Secretary Root was its leading member on the floor. Both these men will bear ready testimony to the indefatigable services rendered them by Mr. Holls, who was chairman of the committee on education, a prominent member of the committee on cities, and a prompt authority on many points that arose involving the past legal or constitutional history of New York, or comparison with the systems of other States.

As he grew older, his interest in foreign policy and international problems was constantly increasing. He visited Europe almost every summer, and became ever more widely acquainted there with leading public men. He was especially well known in Germany, where in recent years he had established a branch of his legal firm, and where his long and greatly prized friendship with Dr. Andrew D. White made him always at home at the American embassy. From the very moment of the first announcement of the Czar's idea of an international conference for the discussion of disarmament and the promotion of peace, Mr. Holls was an enthusiastic supporter of the plan. Without disparagement of any one else, it may be said that to him, and, indeed, to him almost alone, must be attributed the gradual arousing of President McKinley's interest in the con-

ference, and the final determination of our government to be represented by a large and strong delegation.

Mr. Holls's activity in the matter had made it natural that he should be sent to The Hague, and he preferred to go in the capacity of the delegation's secretary and executive officer. His wide acquaintance in Europe, and his knowledge of French and Spanish, as well as of German, made it possible for him to be of enormous service, not only to the American delegation, but also to the Hague Conference as a whole. Every leading European member of the conference, whether English, French, Russian, German, or otherwise, has ever since been ready to testify to the remarkable record made by Mr. Holls in the whole work of the conference. It happened that the disarmament proposals came to naught, while most unexpectedly the conference was diverted—largely through American influence—into the more fruitful field of international arbitration. Mr. Holls was the American member of the great committee which drafted the arbitration treaty. He showed unexpected resources of knowledge in the sphere of international law, and when the conference was over he wrote a book on its work and achievements that will long make his name known to students of history and international relations.

He had long been an intimate friend of President Roosevelt, who had only a few weeks ago asked him to umpire the adjustment of the German and English claims against Venezuela. He possessed the high distinction of being a member of the permanent international Hague tribunal, having been appointed to that office by the King of Siam. Whatever future public honors might have been in store for him, he had reached a position of influence and authority in the discussion of affairs which had already brought him world-wide recognition.

There was something, at times, in his directness and frank-



ness that seemed to men who did not know him well, or who were of feeble convictions, to be tactless and aggressive; but in these days of over-tactfulness and complaisance it is refreshing to know a man who has strong views and opinions, and who never hesitates to assert them and is ready to fight for them. Men of complete candor and intellectual honesty in public affairs are not as numerous as one might wish for. Mr. Holls lived and thought upon a high plane, and strove for large rather than for petty ends. In the midst of the hurly-burly of professional, political, business, and social life, he never flinched from his full share of work; yet he still, somehow, found time for the pursuits of a thinker, a scholar, and a man of taste. With a remarkable sense of humor, his conversation sparkled with anecdote, and his letters were full of wit and pithy description. From a letter that Dr. Edward Everett Hale has written to express his own sorrow in the loss of Mr. Holls, we may quote the following sentences:

I used to write to him every month to ask him what secrets there were which I might publish on the housetops in our journal. And so often, at least, I used to receive one of his wise, entertaining, vital letters, full of the suggestions of that extraordinary insight which was, once and again, of such service to the country.—*From the "Review of Reviews."*

THE funeral service at the home of Mr. Holls in Yonkers called together his immediate friends and neighbors. The friend of his lifetime, Rev. G. C. Berkemeier, made a short address, introduced by the following poem :

### HEIMGANG

*Heimgang!* So the German people  
Whisper when they hear the bell  
Tolling from some gray old steeple,  
Death's familiar tale to tell;  
When they hear the organ dirges  
Swelling out from chapel dome,  
And the singers' chanting surges,  
*Heimgang!* Always going home.

*Heimgang!* Quaint and tender saying,  
In the grand old German tongue,  
That hath shaped Melanchthon's praying,  
And the hymns that Luther sung;  
Blessed is our loving Maker,  
That where'er our feet shall roam,  
Still we journey toward "God's Acre."  
*Heimgang!* Always going home.

*Heimgang!* We are all so weary;  
And the willows, as they wave,  
Softly sighing, sweetly, dreary,  
Woo us to the tranquil grave;  
When the golden pitcher 's broken,  
With its dregs or with its foam,  
And the tender words are spoken,  
*Heimgang!* *We are going home!*

## ADDRESS

HE who lies here in death before us was a citizen of the world. Of German ancestry, he remained German to the core of his heart, exhibiting in the traits of his character all the forceful elements of his ancestry, *Gemüt* as well as *Gemütlichkeit*,—strong sentiment without sentimentality, honesty of purpose, profundity and thoroughness in all that he did.

At the same time he was an illustrious example of an American citizen, unbounded in his patriotism, untiring in his quiet but manifold and far-reaching efforts for the honor, the name, and the ever-widening influence of his native country. He was a typical German-American. But he was more than this. He was a friend of the English, entertaining intimate relations with those highest in authority, the Prime Minister having honored him with a friendly letter only a few days before his death. He was a lover of the Russians, whose Sancta Sophia and Troitza he interpreted to the New World, and having studied the people, he was finally, on special invitation, ushered into the presence of the august sovereign of that country. He received marked consideration from their imperial majesties the Kaiser of Germany and the Emperor of Austria; and, a Protestant, was granted an audience by the late Pope in Rome. In every direction he exerted his influence, and this influence was growing, and always proved to be a potent factor for good. He was called upon to sit in the council of nations, and helped hasten the day when peace shall take the place of war, and good-will to men shall govern the empires of the world. He was a universal genius, and could say in truth, *Homo sum, nihil humani*

*a me alienum puto*; a scholar and lover of science and art in every branch; a lover, a reader, a writer of books; a traveler and a linguist; a thinker and philosopher. He was a citizen of the world,—a noble, useful, loyal citizen,—and as such he was recognized, valued, and honored by his peers at home and abroad.

And yet, the place where he was known best and prized most highly and loved most sincerely was here, where we now assemble, in his home-circle, amid the most sacred relations of life; where we, who were privileged to associate with him as intimate friends, so often enjoyed his hospitality and were magnetized by his wonderful personality and delighted by his golden words of wit and wisdom.

The place where a good and noble man has lived; the house which he treasured as his home, where he spent silent, solemn hours alone with his God, and had genial converse with the elect of his heart; the place where he developed his inner self and whence his influence flowed forth as a many-branched river into the outer world,—such a place is, indeed, sacred ground, a tabernacle of God with men. And those of us who saw and met our dear one dead within the sanctuary of home, who found an opportunity here to look not only into his face, but deep within the inmost recess of his noble heart—those, and only those, I think, knew him thoroughly and appreciated the *man* at his true worth.

It was my privilege in early youth and maturer days for forty years to have been his intimate friend. And never did I cross the threshold of his home except with joyful anticipations, nor did I depart without grateful remembrance. Today only it is different, and instead of beating with joyful expectation, my heart mourns at the loss of a life-long friend. And yet, there applies even now what the great poet has said of memory: "It is the only Paradise from which we can never be

banished." The refreshing waters, which here bubbled forth as an ever-flowing fountain, shall henceforth return as a mighty flood of grateful remembrance. The enduring love of thousands will continue to bless this house, and may the God of all comfort and mercy comfort the afflicted ones of this home, even as a mother comforteth her child.

We shall never forget the beautiful and majestic tree under whose shadow we have here so often rested, and by whose sweet and mellow fruit we have so often been refreshed. Grateful remembrance shall remain as fruitful seed out of the gladsome harvests of bygone days. They say our friend is dead. Dead?—not to us, not to our hearts. Love never ceaseth! He sleeps. We gaze upon his loved face not with affright—but to be urged back into life, to live, to work, to endeavor, to persevere while it is day, for full too soon the night will come. The memory of the departed one shall fill us with holy zeal, to make our lives noble, useful, symmetrical, beautiful. So death produceth life. Let us not look down, but up; let us not look back, but forward. The dawn of peace is upon us. Half the night has fled and morning is near. "The things which are seen are temporal, the things which are not seen are eternal." "Without the hope of immortality," says the great philosopher Herder, "I would not wish to have a friend!"—and he who forgets the dead will never prove a true friend to the living.

So now, farewell, thou dearest friend! Farewell—*auf Wiedersehen*. Depart in peace, thou good and faithful servant.

Life's work done;  
Life's race run;  
Life's crown won—  
And now rest !

Our tears, our gratitude, our love shall follow thee; also my love, my tears, my gratitude. Again, farewell—*auf Wiedersehen!*

MEMORIAL SERVICES HELD AT  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

# Memorial Services<sup>1</sup>

IN HONOR OF THE LATE

FREDERICK W. HOLLS

EARL HALL, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK

OCTOBER 22, 1903, 4 P. M.

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## PROGRAM OF EXERCISES

1. ANDANTE CANTATA . . . . . TSCHAIKOWSKY  
RICHARD ARNOLD'S STRING QUARTET
2. PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. CARPENTER
3. HONORABLE ANDREW D. WHITE  
ADDRESS
4. ARIA . . . . . BACH  
RICHARD ARNOLD'S STRING QUARTET
5. PROFESSOR HUGO MÜNSTERBERG  
ADDRESS
6. VIOLIN SOLO, ADAGIO . . . . . DAVID  
MR. RICHARD ARNOLD
7. DEDICATION OF MR. BEHRER'S BUST OF F. W. HOLLS TO THE FACULTY OF POLITICAL  
SCIENCE OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY BY DR. WILLIAM C. ALPERS ON BEHALF OF  
THE COMMITTEE, AND RESPONSE BY PROFESSOR JOHN BASSETT MOORE ON BE-  
HALF OF THE FACULTY
8. EVENING SONG . . . . . SCHUMANN  
RICHARD ARNOLD'S STRING QUARTET

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Holls was a graduate of Columbia College, Class of 1878, and of the Columbia Law School, Class of 1880. On the twenty-second of October, at the suggestion of the *Gesellig-Wissenschaftlicher Verein*, memorial services were held at Columbia University. The above program was carried out.

## FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS

### MEMORIAL EXERCISES<sup>1</sup>

A SIMPLE but impressive service in memory of the late Frederick William Holls (A.B., 1878; LL.B., 1880) was conducted in Earl Hall on the afternoon of Thursday, October 22. The service was held at the suggestion of the *Gesellig-Wissenschaftlicher Verein*, the arrangements having been intrusted to a committee of this society, on which the Germanic Department of the University was also represented. A number of persons affiliated with the University, both instructors and students, were present, but the audience was chiefly composed of friends and relatives of the deceased. The various addresses on the program were interspersed with appropriate music furnished by a string quartet, and at the conclusion of the service a bust of Mr. Holls, executed by Mr. Behrer, was presented to the Faculty of Political Science by Dr. William C. Alpers on behalf of the committee.

Frederick William Holls, in the brief space of years that Providence allotted to him, had come to be regarded as one of the foremost and ablest exponents of those phases of German-

<sup>1</sup> Professor Rudolf Tombo, Jr., of Columbia University, a valued friend of Mr. Holls, wrote a full account of the Memorial Services for the December number of the *Columbia University Quarterly* (Vol. VI, No. 1, pp. 40-49).



Americanism which the most patriotic American of English descent would not hesitate to countenance. All his life long he represented the high and humane ideals that were voiced in Germany at the close of the eighteenth century by the eloquent Lessing and the prophetic Herder, and these ideals he was never weary of applying to the conduct not alone of the individual, but of the nation. The presence at the memorial service of the most distinguished German-Americans of New York bore striking testimony to the affection and esteem in which the deceased was held by this portion of our community. The fact that he also enjoyed the friendship and regard of some of the most prominent citizens of our republic not of German descent, amply proved that his conception of the place that the German-American should occupy in the community was sound and wholesome and not in any way dictated by narrow racial prejudice. We of Columbia, too, have much reason to be proud of the service rendered by Mr. Holls, both to his Alma Mater and to the country at large. The same active interest in the University which Mr. Holls evinced as a student he continued to display as an alumnus; and it was therefore peculiarly fitting that sons of Columbia should join with friends and relatives to honor his memory.

President Roosevelt, a warm personal friend and admirer of Mr. Holls, sent the following letter, which was read at the opening of the services:

I wish I could be present at the memorial service in honor of my valued friend, Frederick W. Holls. Unfortunately, it is not possible. Mr. Holls has rendered eminent service to our country in many ways; he has worked with tireless energy and

with singleness of purpose for many of the reforms upon the necessity of which our best leaders of public opinion were agreed. Prominent among his services is that rendered in connection with the establishment of the Court of Arbitration at the Hague. I feel that his death is a grievous loss, not only to us, his friends, but to our people as a whole ; and were I able to leave Washington at this time, I should certainly be with you.

The words of welcome were delivered by Professor W. H. Carpenter of the Germanic Department, who spoke as follows :

It is with a feeling of sad pleasure that we welcome you here today to celebrate, under the auspices of the University, a service in memory of one who was not only a distinguished alumnus of Columbia, but a most loyal and faithful son. Frederick William Holls entered the freshman class of Columbia College in 1874, and four years later, in 1878, was graduated a bachelor of arts. Two years afterwards he received the degree of bachelor of laws from the Columbia Law School. During this long period of study his roots struck deeply into college life, and he was in many directions one of the strong and notable men of his class in both Law School and College. Among his many student activities he is remembered as the first editor of the *Columbia Spectator*, the college organ that exists as a daily journal today. If he was active as a student in student interests, he was no less eagerly interested in the growth and development of the University in the busy years that have intervened, when he always gladly and self-disinterestedly stood ready with word and deed to help us along our way. It was with peculiar satisfaction, then, to us at Columbia, that we learned that you who are not our alumni, on your own initiative, desired to have these memorial services at this University, because we saw that

you plainly connected Frederick W. Holls's career, so wide in its later activities, in its beginnings, at least, inherently with us, and as we, too, like to connect it. Columbia mourns with you today a son departed, but glories, too, in the memory of his career—a life brief in its measure of years, but long in distinguished achievement.

The first address was made by the Hon. Andrew D. White, late Ambassador to the German Empire :

*Ladies and Gentlemen :*

More deeply than is usual on occasions of this kind, this commemoration must touch our hearts.

Usually such gatherings to renew and compare our remembrances of a departed friend are made up wholly or mainly of members of the same profession, or the same organization, or the same sect, or the same party. That is not at all the case with us today. We come from various professions, from many organizations, from all sects and parties ; we represent, indeed, nothing less than universal humanity.

Usually, also, such meetings commemorate the departure of men laden with years and honors ; of men who have well rounded out their lives ; who have discharged their duties and received their rewards : but we now meet to commemorate a man who had not reached middle age. He had, indeed, discharged duties, many, varied, and important, and he had discharged them well ; but we had all thought of him as only at the beginning of his career. Therefore it is that his death comes to us all as an especial loss, leaving a void both in our hearts and in our best hopes and expectations of his yet higher service to his country.

My first knowledge of him was derived from various communications made by him to the press—articles which showed

an ardent devotion to a reform of the civil service. What especially struck me was their clearness, their cogency, their practical insight into American life, their thorough understanding of the conditions under which a struggle for such a reform must be made in a republic like ours. He was then but a young man — just out of Columbia College. He had clearly set for himself a high ideal, but he pointed out paths toward it which were practical. He had made the studies which doctrinaires make, but he had done far more; for while his knowledge of the best thoughts of the best thinkers was wide and deep and accurate, he had closely observed men as they are, and he had kept in touch with them.

Frederick the Great said of Joseph II, who made perhaps the noblest of all efforts in modern times to accomplish great reforms, and yet the most unsuccessful, that he always took the second step before he had taken the first. This could not be said of our friend. In *his* efforts one step logically followed another. He was willing to labor and to wait. He strove for the best attainable, in the hope of securing, later, the best thinkable. He had faith in right as against wrong, even though right was delayed. He had inherited a noble German idealism, and he had gained American straightforward common sense. He revered the political ideas of Francis Lieber; he rejoiced in the patriotism and eloquence of Carl Schurz; he cherished the teachings of his Columbia instructors, notably those of Professor Burgess; but in solving any political problem or laying down a line of political action he took the course revealed to him by his own reason and his own conscience — even though it led him away, temporarily, from friends very near and dear to him.

My first personal acquaintance with him was made at the Republican National Convention of 1884, at Chicago. Unexpectedly to myself, I had been sent there as one of the dele-

gates-at-large from the State of New York, as the colleague of such men as Theodore Roosevelt and George William Curtis. We had been elected as "Independents." Our wish was that whoever might be nominated or whatever might be done, the candidate of the party should be fully and thoroughly committed to a reform of the civil service. For that we cared more than for the success of any individual. The candidate whom we favored was not nominated. The candidate selected was more widely beloved by his contemporaries than any statesman since Henry Clay, but we feared his connection with men and methods of the past, we doubted whether his allegiance to the principles we had at heart could be secured. An especial effort was therefore made to interest him in the reform, and to induce him to commit himself to it, and one of the main agents in this effort was this young German-American. He discharged his duties vigorously and faithfully; made, at once, the journey from Illinois to Maine, and wrought there with others so efficiently that the candidate committed himself definitely, fully, and publicly to the militant reform.

The activities of our friend now became varied. He was making a vigorous beginning as a young lawyer; he had his own way to hew and he was obliged to work hard; but this caused no abatement of his political efforts. It was soon seen that his interest in the higher range of political questions was greater even than in his profession, and that, as regarded a very considerable number of such questions, especially those in which our German-American citizens were most interested, he was a wise counselor and a forceful speaker. Whether in the committee room or on the stump, whether advising or exhorting, whether in English or in German, he was soon recognized as a power to be reckoned with.

There was in him a big, hearty, shrewd force—physical, intellectual, moral—which it was hard to resist. This was

soon felt by his neighbors and he was nominated to the State Senate. In the district where he lived his party was indeed in a hopeless minority and defeat was of course; but he made a strong effort, and the party was the better for it.

The next important step in his public career was his election to the State Constitutional Convention. There he was soon among the leaders. He threw himself into the work with all his thoughtfulness and force. Nearest his heart were questions pertaining to the betterment of municipal government and the advancement of the educational system of the State in all its branches; to these things he gave steady thought and constant effort, with a most useful result to our whole Commonwealth.

The next main step in his public career was when, in 1899, he was appointed secretary to the American delegation at the Peace Conference of the Hague. From intimate knowledge, I do not hesitate to assert that no member of the delegation rendered greater services than he. More and more I was impressed by his earnestness in studying the questions which rose before us. He brought to this task a clear and thorough knowledge of international law; but he also brought remarkable skill in securing the best opinion from his contemporaries and associates, and he constantly showed his force in discussion. Before the delegation had been at the Hague twenty-four hours, he seemed to know and to be in touch with the leading men in the whole body; he seemed instinctively to discern those who were simply make-weights and lookers-on, and those who might be made useful allies in the effort of the American government to secure a practical plan of arbitration.

As a member of the great committee of the conference on arbitration, he was especially active. More and more his ability was recognized by the leading men representing various nations in that body, and more and more he influenced their

thinking. One matter deserves here especial mention. He was the only member of the whole body whose name was given by general consent to a successful proposal—for it was he who suggested the article on “Seconding Powers,” which was finally adopted by the conference in full session and with virtual unanimity. It was generally known as “The Holls Proposal”—“*La Proposition Holls*.” It is altogether likely that this may yet prove a most important weapon in the armory of peace.

Recognition of his ability, his shrewdness, his earnestness, his force, came in various ways and from many different quarters. A strong friendship grew up between him and leading delegates from England, France, Germany, Russia, Austria, the Netherlands and Italy. Perhaps the most curious and interesting of all the tributes to his ability was that made by the Siamese delegation; its members formed so high an opinion of him that he was soon afterwards selected as one of the judges to represent Siam on the permanent arbitration tribunal.

While thus doing worthy work in the conference at large, his skilful activity was shown in other ways. Some time after our assembling, there arose questions of the utmost difficulty and delicacy. It was suddenly made known that three of the greater powers of continental Europe were likely to take ground against the whole idea of international arbitration. It was therefore decided by the presidents of the German and American delegations to send each a special messenger to Berlin to clear up misunderstandings and to prevent such a catastrophe, if possible. Our friend was one of the two selected, the other being one of the most eminent European authorities in international law. Never was mission more successful. Mr. Holls at once gained the confidence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, then Count von Buelow, and even of the Chancellor of the Empire, Prince Hohenlohe. Both these magnates were greatly

impressed by his straightforward and earnest statement of the case. The danger was averted and thenceforward the representatives of Germany, of Austria-Hungary and of Italy stood shoulder to shoulder with those of the United States, Great Britain and France in the creation of an international tribunal.

At a later period Mr. Holls clenched this work by interviews with the three continental emperors,—the Emperor William, the Emperor Francis Joseph, and the Emperor Nicholas. These interviews were not merely perfunctory. He discussed with these monarchs the work of the conference, fully, earnestly and with power. They gladly heard him, and he thus undoubtedly increased the certainty of ultimate triumph for international arbitration.

The same thing may be said as to his activity among European statesmen, especially at Berlin, London, Paris and St. Petersburg. Probably no young American of our time has thoroughly discussed the questions raised by the International Peace Conference, or indeed any current political questions, with so many leaders of various European nations as did our friend in these interviews.

In the intervals of political effort at home and of these services to international peace abroad, he did much other work. Especially important was his book upon the Hague Conference. It gave the history which led up to the calling of that body, and it showed what was said and done, not only in the body at large, but in the various committees and by the individuals who took an important part in its deliberations. In view of the brief time in which the book was prepared, it certainly did our friend great credit. It must ever remain a monument, not only to the congress of which it records the history, but to this young secretary who, in so short a space of time, gave so complete an account of the work then done for his country and for humanity at large.



From various journeys in many parts of the world he also brought back much of general interest, but among the things we have to regret is that he published so little of this. Those who have read his recollections of his Eastern journeys, and especially of his stay at Constantinople, must always regret that he did not find time to give to the press more of these results of travel. The latest of his publications in this field has especial interest to many scholars. Happening to stop at Weimar, during a rapid journey through central Germany, he discovered the manuscript letters which passed between Ralph Waldo Emerson and Herman Grimm. These he prepared for publication, and they throw a most pleasant light over the relations of the greatest of American philosophers and the most thoughtful of recent German critics.

I might dwell upon many of his varied qualities which so endeared him to the friends who knew him best. Many of us had occasion to admire the breadth and depth of his acquaintance with literature, both German and English, with the best historical treatises, and with the clearest statements of modern political thought on both sides of the Atlantic. All this drew us to him, but he had two special gifts which were to those who knew him best a constant delight. First, his fund of humor. Whether in English or German, this fund seemed inexhaustible. Again and again I have seen it drawn upon in the midst of surroundings so diverse as gatherings of political leaders in America, and of university professors in Germany,—and always to the joy of his hearers.

But perhaps that which drew the group of his most intimate friends most closely to him was his passion for what was best and highest in music. Who that has been privileged to hear him in the midst of his beautiful home surroundings, while interpreting the most lofty inspirations of the greatest composers, can ever forget it?

And here perhaps I may be allowed to give one reminiscence showing not only his skill in the great art which he loved so well, but his promptness, shrewdness and tact in doing the right thing at the right moment.

On the 4th of July, 1899, in the midst of the sessions of the Peace Conference at the Hague, the American delegation celebrated our national festival of Independence, and invited to this celebration not only the delegates from our sister nations, but the leading representatives of the Netherlands: the ministers of the crown, the men foremost in science, literature and art, the leaders in the universities, the authorities of the cities. The celebration was held at the ancient cathedral church in the City of Delft, and the central event of the whole celebration was the laying of a wreath of silver and gold, by the American delegation, upon the tomb of Hugo Grotius—a tribute to the foremost leader in the realm of international law—the first to utter forth to the world a plea for a settlement of international difficulties by the methods of peace rather than by those of war. The main labor in making all the arrangements fell to our friend, the secretary of the American delegation. His duty was discharged vigorously, thoroughly, perfectly. The great national choir of Amsterdam, which had sung at the coronation of the Queen of the Netherlands, he assembled in the apse of this vast church edifice. At the great organ he placed one of the most eminent professors of the Netherlands; he made provision even for the due chiming of the bells in the tower, and finally for a dinner, admirably served in the ancient Town Hall, to four hundred and fifty guests. As the center of all the exercises came addresses by the Netherlands ministers of state, by the Burgomaster of the City of Delft, and by representatives of our own delegation, of whom I rejoice to remember as the most eloquent the then President of Columbia University, the present Mayor of the City of New York, the Honorable Seth Low.

But the event most characteristic of our friend occurred just at the beginning of the proceedings. Our delegation, being assembled at the extreme east end of the cathedral, in front of the tomb of William of Orange and at the side of the tomb of Grotius, awaited the coming of the delegates of all the great states represented at the Hague. Presently they began to arrive. First came the president of the conference, Baron de Staal, the Russian ambassador at London, with his large body of associates. Hardly had he planted his foot within the church, filled as it was with a vast assembly, when from the great organ went up the Russian national anthem, swelling through the aisles, rolling under the vaults, echoing between the arches, majestic and sublime. Next came the representatives of Austria-Hungary; and hardly had they entered the church when their great national anthem, the "Imperial Austrian Hymn," sounded through the vast edifice. The German delegation was duly saluted by "Die Wacht am Rhein." Lord Pauncefoot followed, and there swelled forth "God Save the Queen," and when the delegates of France entered there came an outburst of "La Marseillaise." And so it was that every leading national delegation, as it entered this vast edifice and made its way up the broad aisle, was in its turn greeted by its own national anthem gloriously given. The old cathedral seemed to tremble for joy—joy at the incoming of a better epoch.

At first it was all a wonder to me. It was hard to understand how the organist could have possibly arranged matters so perfectly; but presently, on looking about, I discovered that our friend was not with us, and then the mystery was solved. In his determination that all should be done in the best manner possible, he had quietly left us, made his way up into the organ loft, taken the place of the organist, and having arranged a chain of signals from the entrance of the cathedral, had been able to salute each delegation as it arrived with the music

which it recognized as its own. Those of us who best know our friend will see in this a combination of his two most remarkable characteristics—his profound esthetic sense and his promptness in doing his duty, whatever it might be.

On his return home he resumed all his more important activities. His merit as an adviser was recognized, especially in questions pertaining to the relations between the United States and Germany, and between German-Americans and the great body of our citizens at large, by both the late and present President of the United States. The last letter which I ever received from him was one written on the last afternoon of his life, giving an account of a recent discussion with the President regarding certain important matters of international policy. It represented all of our friend's best characteristics—his clearness of vision, the cogency of statement, his earnest patriotism, and his devotion to international peace with honor. It came to me as a voice from beyond the tomb. Thirty-six hours before I received it, while making an excursion on the coast of Maine, I had taken up a newspaper and there had seen the account of his sudden death, and it was only at the end of the following day that his letter reached me. I thought of the words, "He being dead yet speaketh."

Many lessons of value might be drawn from his career, but I think that they must be evident to us all. They are treasured in the hearts of those who knew him best. There is no need to dwell upon them here. Deep as is our disappointment that he is lost to us, and above all, to his country, at so early an age, we may yet be thankful for the example he has set, for lofty ideals worthily followed, for good purposes nobly served, for sturdy battles bravely fought, for a spirit strenuous, yet kindly, for a life full of force, yet full of beauty.

Mr. White was followed by Professor Hugo Münsterberg, of Harvard University, who spoke of his intimate friendship with

the deceased and of his friend's view of the duties of the German-American citizen. Professor Münsterberg, speaking in German, delivered the following address:

Die Geschichte des Deutschtums in Amerika ist farblos und einförmig. Das Deutschtum tat seine Schuldigkeit, ehrbar und schlicht, ohne kühne Hoffnungen und deshalb ohne schwere Enttäuschungen: nur selten kam der Anlass zu überwältigender Freude oder zu erschütternder Trauer. Um so tiefer muss daher der Schmerz in die Seele greifen, wenn das Deutschtum endlich einmal aus seinem Boden eine stolze sieghafte Persönlichkeit erwachsen sieht, die den Deutschen des Landes wie kein anderer Ehre bringen sollte, und dann ein Blitz herniederzuckt, der plötzlich alles Hoffen vernichtet. Ja, selten hat das Deutschtum Amerikas zu ernsterer Trauer Anlass gehabt, als in der Stunde, da Friedrich Wilhelm Holls starb. Von den Millionen Deutschamerikanern, die in diesem Lande geboren sind, schien er wie kaum ein anderer berufen, ein Führer zu werden; wer den schnellen Anstieg seiner letzten Jahre sah, der fühlte lebhaft, dass alles nur die Vorbereitung für grosse reife weitwirkende Taten gewesen: und da erstarrte die Lippe, ehe das erfüllende Wort gesprochen war.

Bei einer so inhaltvollen Persönlichkeit ist jedes Erinnerungswort unzureichend und deutlich vor allem empfinde ich es, wie viele andre würdiger wären, die Gefühle der Deutschen in dieser Stunde zum Ausdruck zu bringen. Nur eines gibt mir dazu den Mut: die enge treue rückhaltlose Freundschaft, die mich mit dem Verstorbenen während seiner letzten Lebensjahre verbunden hat. Ja, mich durchsonnt die Erinnerung an immer neue glückliche Plauderstunden, wenn wir am Hügelabhang seines prächtigen Gartens sassen, im Frühling in seiner Lieblingslaube unter den blühenden Apfelbäumen, oder im Herbst, wenn die blauen Trauben um uns reiften, und

die Blicke über den Hudson hinüber zu den Pallisaden schweiften. Oder wenn er hinüber nach Harvard kam, wo er so gerne unter den alten Ulmen schlenderte und oftmals im Gespräch aus dem Morgen der Abend ward. Aber immer doch war ich mir dessen bewusst, dass er mir nicht nur ein persönlicher Freund war, sondern dass ich in den Zügen des Freundes noch ein andres suchte und fand: das Idealbild des Deutschamerikaners. Als ich vor Jahresfrist ein Buch amerikanischer Eindrücke in die Welt hinausandte, da trug jeder Band auf der Widmungsseite die Inschrift: Friedrich Wilhelm Holls, dem idealen Typus des Amerikaners von deutscher Abstammung.

Er selber hat es oft deutlich ausgesprochen, was er als Zielpunkt des amerikanischen Deutschtums erfasste. Eines vor allem: der Deutsche soll mit ganzem Herzen Amerikaner sein. Jede Stunde seines Tagewerks hat diese ernsteste Forderung erfüllt: mit glühendem Patriotismus hat er dem Lande gedient, in dem er geboren wurde, und selbst in jener Feststunde, als die Deutschen den Bruder des Kaisers grüssten, war ein stolzes Amerikabekenntnis sein erstes Wort. Und dennoch war die Zugehörigkeit seiner Eltern zum deutschen Volke für ihn durchaus nicht nur eine sentimentale Erinnerung, sondern eine Quelle freudiger Aufgaben, wertvollster Pflichten. Welches sind diese deutschamerikanischen Pflichten?

Nicht einen Staat im Staate sollen die Deutschen schaffen. Wenn die Deutschen sich absondern, so sagte er oft, dann erkennen sie damit auch andren das Recht zu, besondere Gruppen zu bilden, und da die Engländer in der Mehrheit sind, so würden die Deutschen dadurch in die zweite Reihe zurückgedrängt. Unser Freund wollte es anders. Es gibt nur eine Art Amerikanertum. Es ist so wenig englisch wie es deutsch ist: es ist ein Neues, ein erst täglich zu Schaffendes, das als einheitliche sittliche Aufgabe den Abkömmlingen aller Nationen gestellt ist. Jede Nation soll ihr Bestes beitragen,

dieses Volk der Zukunft zu innerer Vollendung zu erheben, aber das Ganze ist dann schliesslich gemeinsames Werk, mit gleichem Anrecht für alle, die zur amerikanischen Neukultur beitragen durften.

So kam es, dass er den Schwerpunkt vielleicht weniger als andre auf die Pflege des Deutschen als Umgangssprache legte. Er liebte die Sprache seiner Eltern von Herzen, er sprach sie vollendet, er ehrte sie dadurch, dass er sie rein hielt und nie die widerwärtige Vermischung von Deutsch und Englisch duldete, seine bedeutendsten Reden hat er deutsch gehalten: aber im Grunde wollte er das Deutsche hier als die Sprache der deutschen Dichter und Denker gepflegt wissen, als Kultursprache, nicht als Volkssprache, da er eben nur eine einzige Art des Amerikanertums anerkannte und es aus historischen Gründen feststand, dass Deutsch nicht die Sprache des neuen amerikanischen Volkes sein kann. Wichtigeres als die sprachliche Form sollte das Deutschtum zu der neuen Kultur beitragen: deutsche Gründlichkeit und deutsche Tiefe, deutsches Gemütsleben und deutsche Gewissenhaftigkeit, deutsche Freudigkeit und deutschen Ernst.

Hier setzte sein bestes Wollen ein und alle Einflüsse des väterlichen Predigerhauses, alle Gaben, die Natur ihm mitgegeben, alle Züge seines Temperaments und Characters, wirkten harmonisch zusammen, um ihn in diesem Sinne zum Vorbild werden zu lassen. Wer lauschen durfte, wenn er in seinem Heim mit Künstlerhand die Orgel spielte, der wusste, dass alles Tiefe und Ernste der deutschen Volksseele in seinem Gemüte herrlich weiterklang. Immer wieder versenkte er sich in die deutsche Dichtung; deutsche Geschichtsschreibung war seine liebste Lektüre; dem Andenken Hermann Grimm's war seine letzte Schrift gewidmet. Und der deutsche Idealismus, der ihn selbst erfüllte, sollte nun die weitesten Kreise durchdringen. Wie ward er zum Rufer im Streit, wenn es galt

für Reinheit und Ehre im politischen Kampfe einzustehn, wenn es galt, das Dauernde über den Vorteil der Stunde zu erheben.

Was ihm nahe trat, ergriff er mit deutscher wissenschaftlicher Gründlichkeit; der Verkehr mit Gelehrten war ihm Lebensbedürfnis; die wissenschaftliche Arbeitsweise trug er in jedes Gebiet, das er berührte. Als ihn der Haager Friedenskongress zu beschäftigen anfang, wandte er sich sofort den emsigsten Forschungen zu und bald schrieb er das gründlichste Werk über die ganze Bewegung. Er sagte oft, dass der schlimmste innere Feind Amerikas die Oberflächlichkeit sei und dass Amerika erst lernen müsse, wie sehr es not tut, ein Problem wirklich zu bemeistern, ehe man es zu lösen versucht. Vor allem aber glaubte er an die vertiefte deutsche Lebensauffassung; nichts Wertvolleres bringt der Deutsche über den Ozean. Er bewunderte die angelsächsischen Tugenden, aber er wusste es, nur der deutsche sittliche Idealismus kann das nationale Leben Amerikas "davor bewahren, von dem Flugsand der Tagespolitik verschüttet zu werden." In tiefbewegten Worten sprach er das aus, als ich ihn zum letzten Male sah, kurze Wochen vor seinem Tode. Er war hinübergekommen, um in Boston und Concord die Erinnerungsfeier zu Emerson's hundertstem Geburtstag mitzuerleben. Mit der Begeisterung eines Jünglings schritt er durch die Strassen von Concord, das er mit Weimar verglich, und genoss den Zauber jener Stunden, in denen Emerson's Geist lebendig wurde. Immer wieder kam er damals darauf zurück, dass der deutsche Idealismus, der Idealismus Fichtes, der Emerson bewegte, für Amerika wichtiger sei als irgend eine deutsche Erbschaft.

Zu seinem deutschen Lebensernst und seiner deutschen Tiefe gesellte sich aber wie bei wenigen die deutsche Lebensfreude. Seine launige, oft schalkhafte Heiterkeit, sein Behagen an fröhlicher Geselligkeit, sein Glück im Heim, sein Schwel-



gen in Dichtung und Musik, seine Liebe für die Natur, seine Freude am persönlichen Verkehr mit Männern von historischer Bedeutung, alles einigte sich, damit sein tatenvolles Leben zugleich ein freudenvolles würde, und während sein Dasein in seiner Arbeit weiterwirken wollte wie die Rede des Anwalts, war es zugleich in seiner Lebensfreude jederzeit in sich selbst vollendet wie der Sang des Dichters. Und so in vollster Lebenslust traf ihn der schnelle leidenlose Tod.

Aber die Pflichten des Deutschen in Amerika erfüllen, bedeutete ihm nicht nur, deutsche Ideale in die Volksseele zu senken, sondern zugleich, zwischen dem Vaterlande und dem Lande der Väter Fäden der Freundschaft hinüber und herüber zu knüpfen. Auch da hat kein Deutscher, der unter dem Sternenbanner geboren, je die Aufgabe tiefer erfasst und reicher erfüllt. Was er für die freundschaftlichen Beziehungen beider Länder vollbracht, durch das, was er angeregt, und vielleicht noch mehr durch das, was er verhindert, wird erst dann deutlich hervortreten, wenn es nicht mehr Politik ist, wenn es Geschichte geworden ist. War es doch auch sein persönlichstes Verdienst, dass Deutschland in entscheidender Stunde den Widerspruch gegen die amerikanischen Vorschläge auf der Haager Konferenz aufgab. Und niemals war seine Politik durch kleinliche Sonderinteressen bestimmt; sein scharfes Auge sah die Welt in historischer Perspektive. Grade weil Amerika für ihn nicht zufälliges Produkt der Vergangenheit, sondern sittliche Aufgabe der Zukunft war, so wurde die deutschamerikanische Freundschaft für ihn nicht nur ein Wunsch der zurückschauenden Pietät, sondern vor allem ein Ziel der vorwärtsschauenden Kulturarbeit. Deshalb war er auch gewiss, dass das ungeschriebene Bündnis zwischen Deutschland und der Neuen Welt sich nicht gegen England kehren dürfe; unermüdlich suchte er zwischen den teutonischen Völkern auszugleichen.

Vielleicht kein amerikanischer Privatmann ist so vielen leidenden Staatsmännern Europas persönlich nahe getreten wie er; gleichviel aber, ob er mit Kaisern und Kanzlern verhandelte oder im schlichten Kreise der Freunde plauderte, auf dem Forum wie am Kamin, er war stets der gleiche Idealist, stets der gleiche Enthusiast, dem die Ehre seiner Nation und der Friede der Welt die weite Seele erfüllte. Das aber wusste er, dass der Friede der Welt am besten gesichert ist, wenn die germanischen Völker ihn schützen, und dass die Ehre der amerikanischen Nation am köstlichsten glänzen wird, wenn das wahre Deutschtum im Lande zu stärkerem Einfluss kommt, denn tief in seinem Herzen glühte still der Glaube, dass von allen Idealen die deutschen doch die reinsten sind. Lasset uns sorgen, dass auf seinem Grabeshügel niemals der deutsche Eichkranz fehlt.

*[Here follows a translation of the foregoing address]*

The history of German culture in America is colorless and uniform. The German has done his duty, modestly and simply, without daring hopes, and thus without sharp disillusion: seldom has he been moved to overpowering joy or to overwhelming sorrow. So much the deeper, then, must be the grief of the community of Germans, in seeing a high, conquering personality—one sprung at last from its own soil, one which should have, more than any other, done honor to the Germans of the land—struck down of a sudden by a blow which brings all hope to naught. Seldom, indeed, has the German race in America had ground for graver mourning than in the hour when Frederick William Holls died. Of the millions of German-Americans born in the country he seemed called, as none other, to be a leader; they who saw the rapid rise of his last years perceived clearly that all that had

gone before was but the preparation for ripe and great achievement: and then the lips grew cold in death, ere yet the consummate word was spoken.

For so rich and so significant a personality, every word of commemoration is inadequate, and keenly do I feel how much more worthy were many others to voice the feelings of Germans in this hour. One thing alone gives me courage: the close, loyal, and frank friendship which, during these, his last years, has bound me to the dead. There comes to me the sunny memory of oft-renewed and ever-joyous hours of talk, on the terrace of his splendid garden, or in spring-time in his favorite bower under the blossoming apple-trees, or in autumn when the purple grapes were ripening about us, and our eyes could sweep the Hudson to the Palisades beyond; or when he came in turn to Harvard, where he loved to saunter under ancient elms, and in happy interchange the morning hours passed, oft unnoted, into evening. But I was ever conscious that he was to me not a personal friend alone; in the features of the friend I sought and found another—the ideal figure of the German-American. When I, a year before, had launched upon the world a book of impressions of America, every volume bore in dedication: “To F. W. Holls, ideal type of the American of German descent.”

He has himself often and clearly proclaimed what he held to be the end and aim of German culture in America. One thing above all: the German shall be whole-heartedly American. Every hour of his day's work has made good this solemn obligation: with glowing patriotism has he served the land in which he was born, and even in that festal hour in which the Germans welcomed the brother of the Kaiser, a proud avowal of loyalty to America was his first word. And yet the fact that his parents belonged to the German people was for him not at all a mere sentimental memory, but a spring of joyous

tasks, of precious duties. These duties of the German-Americans — what are they?

It is not a state within a state that the Germans have to build. If the Germans sunder themselves from the rest, as he often said, they concede thereby to others the right to form separate groups, and as the English are the more numerous, the Germans will have to take a secondary *rôle*. Our friend would have it otherwise. There is but one kind of American national life. It is English no more than it is German: it is a new creation, shaped from day to day, set as a single moral task to the descendants of all nations. Each nation shall give her best to bring this future folk to self-realization, but the whole is then a common product, in which all who were privileged to contribute to the new culture of America have equal title.

So it was, that he laid, perhaps, less weight than others on the use of German as a means to intercourse. He sincerely loved the speech of his parents, he was master of it, he honored it in keeping it pure and in refusing to countenance the offensive mixture of German and English, and he delivered in German his most important addresses; but at heart he wished the German to be cherished here as the tongue of German poets and thinkers, as *Kultursprache*, not as the language of the people; inasmuch as he in fact admitted but a single type of American national culture, and it was unquestioned that German could not be the speech of the new American nation. Gifts greater than the linguistic form must come from the German spirit to the new civilization: German solidity and depth, German conscientiousness and spirituality, German joyousness and German gravity.

To this end he set his best powers, and all the influences of his pious up-bringing, all the gifts wherewith nature had endowed him, all the forces of his character and temperament

worked together to shape him to the ideal type. The privileged listener, when in his home he touched the organ with a master-hand, could not but feel that all that was profound and serious in the spirit of the German folk still echoed grandly in his soul. He was ever wont to steep himself in German poetry; German historical works were his favorite reading; his last composition was dedicated to the memory of Herman Grimm. And this German idealism, with which he was imbued, he desired to see penetrate into all fields. What a champion he became, when there was need to stand for purity and honor in political strife, when there was need to exalt the permanent above the profit of the hour!

What he was concerned with he grasped with the German scientific thoroughness; the company of scholars was to him a necessity of life; the scientific method he carried into every field that he entered. At the time the Peace Congress at the Hague began to occupy him, he gave himself up to the most painstaking researches, and soon wrote the most profound work on the whole movement. He often said that America's worst internal foe was superficiality, and that America must first of all learn what need there is really to master a problem before seeking to solve it. Above all, however, did he believe in the German's intensive view of life; he brings over the ocean nothing more precious. He esteemed the Anglo-Saxon virtues, but he realized that only the German moral idealism can preserve the American national life "from the quicksand of opportunism." It was in words of deep emotion that he expressed this the last time of our meeting, a few weeks before his death. He had come over to take part in the memorial celebration in Boston and Concord of the centenary of Emerson's birth. With all a youth's enthusiasm, he strode through the streets of Concord, which he likened to Weimar, and gave himself up to the magic spell of those hours in which

Emerson's spirit lived again. Again and yet again, at that time, he came back to the thought that the German idealism, the idealism of Fichte, by which Emerson was inspired, is more important for America than any other German inheritance.

Yet to his German seriousness and gravity he joined as do few the German joy of living. His playful, often roguish, humor, his enjoyment of merry company, his happiness in home, his delight in poetry and music, his love of nature, his pleasure in personal intercourse with men of historical importance—all came together to make his life, rich in deeds as it was, also full of joy; and while his existence aimed through his work at a future effectiveness, like the plea of the attorney, it was at once and always, through his joy in life, complete in itself, like the poet's utterance. And thus in fullest tide of life he was struck by sudden, painless death.

But to fulfil the duties of the German in America meant to him not only to plant German ideals in the soul of the people, but also to join his fatherland and the land of his fathers ever closer in the bonds of friendship. Herein, too, there is no German born under the Stars and Stripes who has more deeply conceived and more richly fulfilled his task. What he did for the friendly relations of the two countries, through that which he set in action, and perhaps yet more through that which he prevented, will first come to light when it is no longer politics, but history. It was due at least to him personally that in the decisive hour of the Hague Conference Germany yielded in her opposition to the American proposals. And never was his political action determined by petty special interests: his far-seeing eye gave back the world in historical perspective. Because America was for him not the chance product of the past, but the moral opportunity of the future, the German-American friendship was for him not merely a wish of retrospective filial regard, but above all an end and aim for the effort

of culture of the future. For this reason, too, he felt strongly that the unwritten alliance between Germany and the New World should not militate against England; tirelessly he sought to mediate between the Teutonic peoples.

Perhaps no American of private life has come into close personal relations with so many of the leading statesmen of Europe; but whether he dealt with kings and councilors, or chatted in a modest friendly circle, in the tribunal as by the hearthstone, he was ever the same idealist, ever the same enthusiast, whose soul was filled with the thought of the honor of his country and the peace of the world. This at least he knew, that the peace of the world is best secured when the Germanic peoples guard it, and that the honor of the American nation will take on brightest luster when the true German spirit comes to stronger influence in the country; for deep in his heart glowed the belief that the German ideals are of all the purest. Let us have a care that upon his sepulchre the German garland of oak-leaves shall never fail.

In presenting the bust of Mr. Holls to the Faculty of Political Science, Dr. William C. Alpers spoke as follows:

In the name of the Memorial Committee, in the name also of the citizens of German birth of the City of New York, I deliver to you, as the representative of the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia University, this bust of our late friend Frederick William Holls.

In doing so, we perform a double duty.

First, we hereby express our appreciation of the great services that this prosperous University has rendered and is daily rendering to this city and to the whole country in its various departments; and while the Germanic Department, by its thor-

ough cultivation of the German language and literature, is naturally the most gratifying one to us, it is principally to your faculty, the Faculty of Political Science, that we must turn at the present moment. Through the proficiency and learning of its teachers and the application and devotion of its students, this faculty has attained the highest rank among other similar schools, and the essays and treatises emanating from here are eagerly sought and read by students of political science all over the world. It was here that Frederick Holls received his first instruction in international law ; it was here that he was imbued with the ideals that he carried into practice in his short but successful career ; and here, therefore, is the proper place for his memorial.

The second duty that we perform by this dedication is to express our gratitude toward our deceased friend, who through the example of his active life filled the heart of every German-born citizen with justified pride. In him the best qualities of German character were evinced, blended in beautiful harmony with true glowing Americanism. So may this bust perpetuate his memory in the halls of your faculty ; may the young student in future years look up to these features in admiration, learn from them the high aims and ideals of his profession, and emulate the shining example of one of the first and ablest alumni of this school ; and may we others, and all citizens of this land, whenever we look upon this face remember that the greatest eulogy of a republican — a eulogy within the grasp of all, and yet attained only by a few — is not that he accumulated wealth, not that he was an accomplished society man, not that he distinguished himself on the rostrum, not even that he was great in learning or a patron of science and art, but that he was, as our friend Frederick William Holls was, a good and loyal citizen of his country.



Professor John Bassett Moore responded on behalf of the Faculty of Political Science in the following words:

The glory of the University is in the lives and achievements of her sons. Of this fact we have today been strongly reminded, as we have listened to the sober but eloquent narration of the career of a distinguished alumnus of Columbia University, who by his well-directed activities rose to eminence among his fellow-men. His high abilities were exerted with conspicuous success in various fields of effort, but it was in connection with international affairs, and especially with the cause of the peaceful adjustment of international disputes, that he won his most lasting fame. I have therefore had the honor to be deputed, as incumbent of the chair of international law and diplomacy in Columbia University, to receive at the hands of his loyal friends, as I now do, in behalf of the Faculty of Political Science, this artistic memorial, in which his features are so well delineated. We accept it with grateful appreciation.

A selection by the string quartet, Schumann's "Evening Song," brought the exercises to a fitting close.

RUDOLF TOMBO, JR.

**RESOLUTIONS OF  
SOCIETIES**

Many of the various organizations with which Mr. Holls was connected held special meetings on the occasion of his death. We print the proceedings of such meetings in the order of their occurrence



Trustees of the  
**German Society**

*having been called to attend a special meeting  
on Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 1903, at 11 a.m.  
were informed by the President of the death of  
their colleague*

**Frederick Wilhelm Holls**  
*on the previous day at 8 a.m. in  
Yonkers, N.Y.*

*It was resolved  
to spread the following memorial on the  
minutes of the Society and send a copy  
thereof to the*

**Widow**  
*of the deceased*



23 The  
German Society  
of the City of New York

*in the death of*

Frederick Wilhelm Holl

*has lost*  
*one of its most trusted*  
advisers and supporters.

*Mr. Holls became a member of the*  
German Society  
*in the year 1883 and was elected*  
*a member of the*  
Board of Directors  
*in the year*  
1887.



In

*this responsible position  
he devoted*

**his energies**  
*with personal sacrifice of valuable time  
to the*

**active supervision**

*of the work of the*

**Society**

*in its*

*various*

**Branches.**





The  
Directors of the  
German Society  
feel a personal loss in the death  
of their  
Colleague.

They will never forget the  
courtesy & friendly consideration  
that marked his bearing in his intercourse  
with them and they will forever  
hold his

Memory  
in the

highest esteem."

---



The German Society  
of the City of New York.

Gustav H. Luwa  
President

Orend Behrens  
II Secretary.



The following resolution was moved by General Tremain at a meeting of the Republican Club of the City of New York, held on the 17th day of August, 1903, and was unanimously carried :

The members of The Republican Club of the City of New York learn with sorrow of the death of our fellow-member

FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLLS

and we lament our loss. He was a pure-minded and patriotic gentleman, rejoicing in his benevolent disposition and broad public spirit ; of scholarly attainments ; skilled in jurisprudence ; wise in counsel ; useful in the service of the state and nation ; and esteemed abroad as well as at home for his talents and international experience. In the midst of a life of activities and public and private usefulness a brilliant career was suddenly extinguished. He was a steadfast friend, a congenial companion, a devoted husband, a sturdy republican, an honored and trusted citizen, and a man beloved for his own sake by all who knew him.

We respectfully tender our sympathy to his widow.

JOHN HENRY HAMMOND,  
*Recording Secretary*



EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES  
OF THE  
Regular Meeting  
OF THE  
CENTRAL COUNCIL

OF THE **Charity Organization**

**Society**

**HELD**

September 16<sup>th</sup>

**1903**





# John Frederick W. Halls.

whose sudden death  
occurred at

Yonkers on July 23rd,

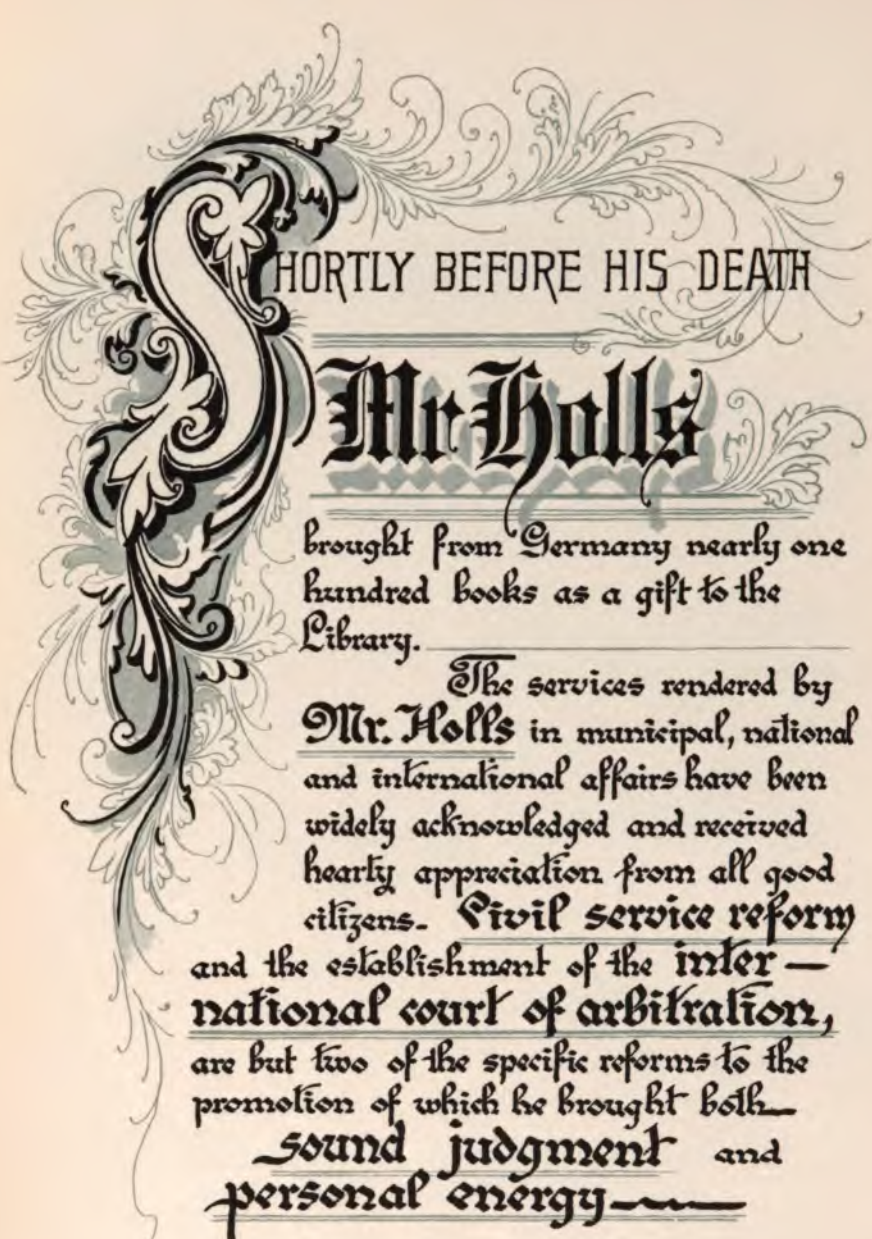
had been for eleven years a member  
of the Central Council of the  
Charity Organization Society.

He was the first chairman of its  
Tenement House Committee

and acted as such until the appoint-  
ment by Governor Roosevelt of the  
Tenement House Commission of 1900  
on which he felt constrained to decline  
the appointment on account of other  
public duties.

He also rendered valuable service as a  
member and often chairman of its Committees  
on Legal Questions, on Statistics, on Co-  
operation and on Publications and Library.





SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEATH

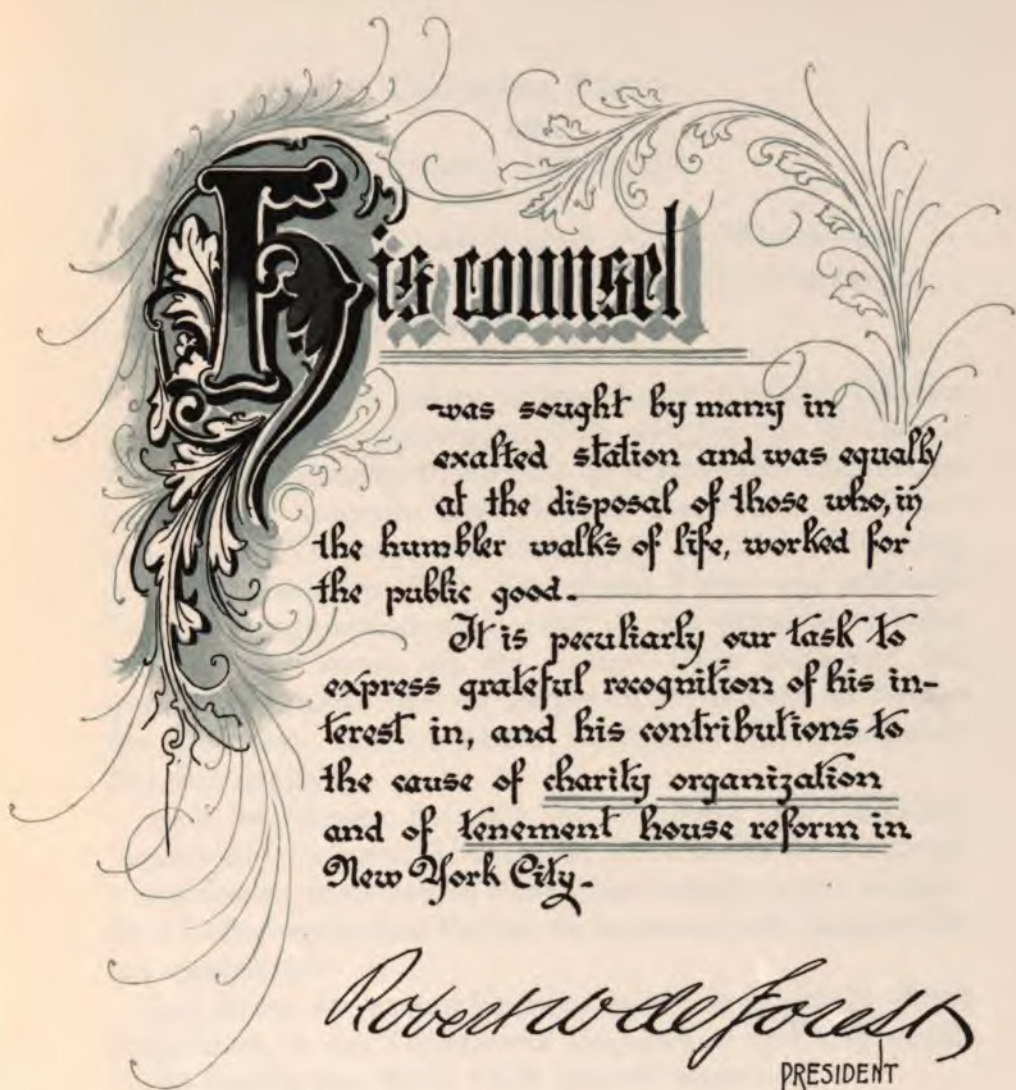
**Mr. Holls**

brought from Germany nearly one hundred books as a gift to the Library.

The services rendered by **Mr. Holls** in municipal, national and international affairs have been widely acknowledged and received hearty appreciation from all good citizens. **Civil service reform** and the establishment of the **international court of arbitration**, are but two of the specific reforms to the promotion of which he brought both **sound judgment** and **personal energy**—







His counsel  
was sought by many in  
exalted station and was equally  
at the disposal of those who, in  
the humbler walks of life, worked for  
the public good.

It is peculiarly our task to  
express grateful recognition of his in-  
terest in, and his contributions to  
the cause of charity organization  
and of tenement house reform in  
New York City.

Robert Waldo Forest  
PRESIDENT

Edward T. Devine  
GENERAL SECRETARY



# Hon. Frederick W. Halls.

whose sudden death  
occurred at

Yonkers on July 23<sup>rd</sup>,

had been for eleven years a member  
of the Central Council of the  
Charity Organization Society.

He was the first chairman of its  
Tenement House Committee

and acted as such until the appoint-  
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# Hon. Frederick W. Holls.

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occurred at

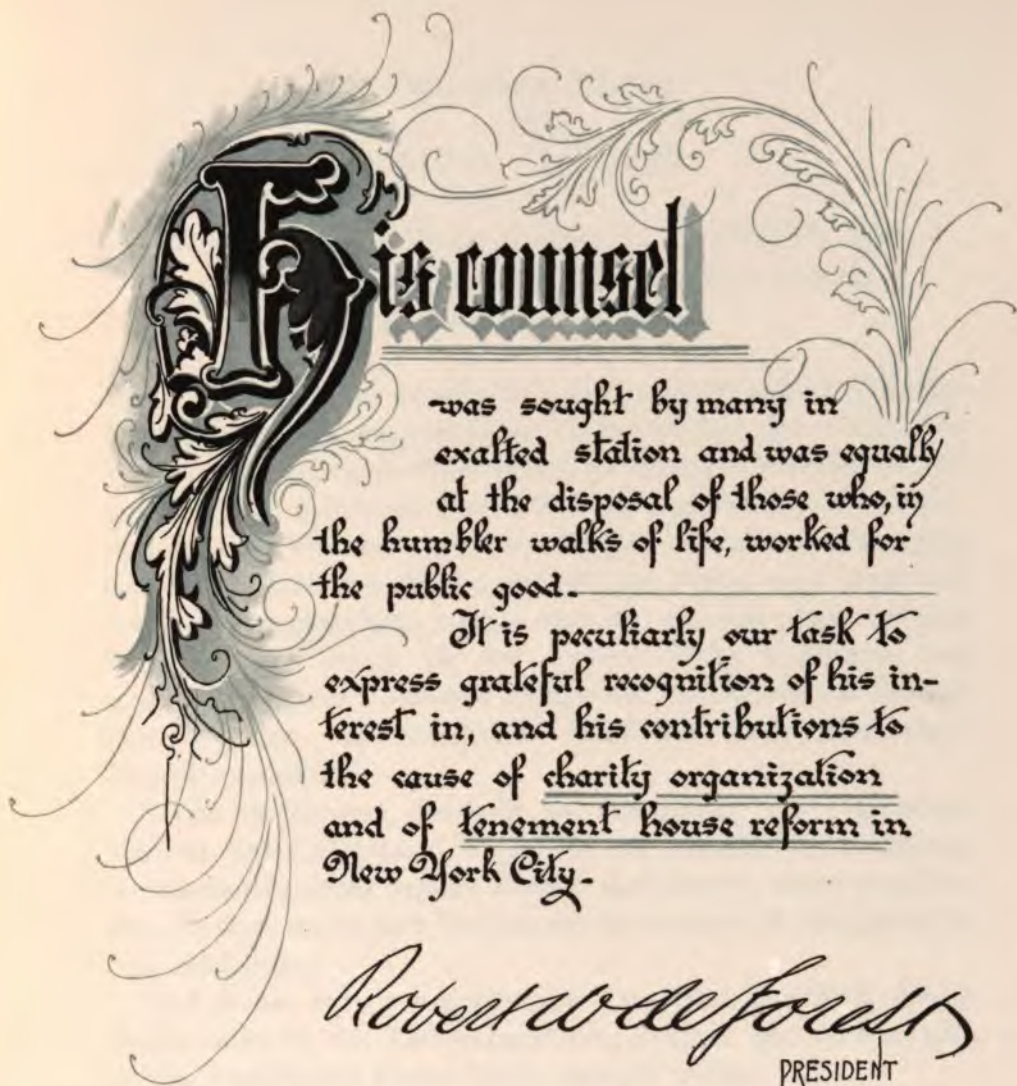
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## His counsel

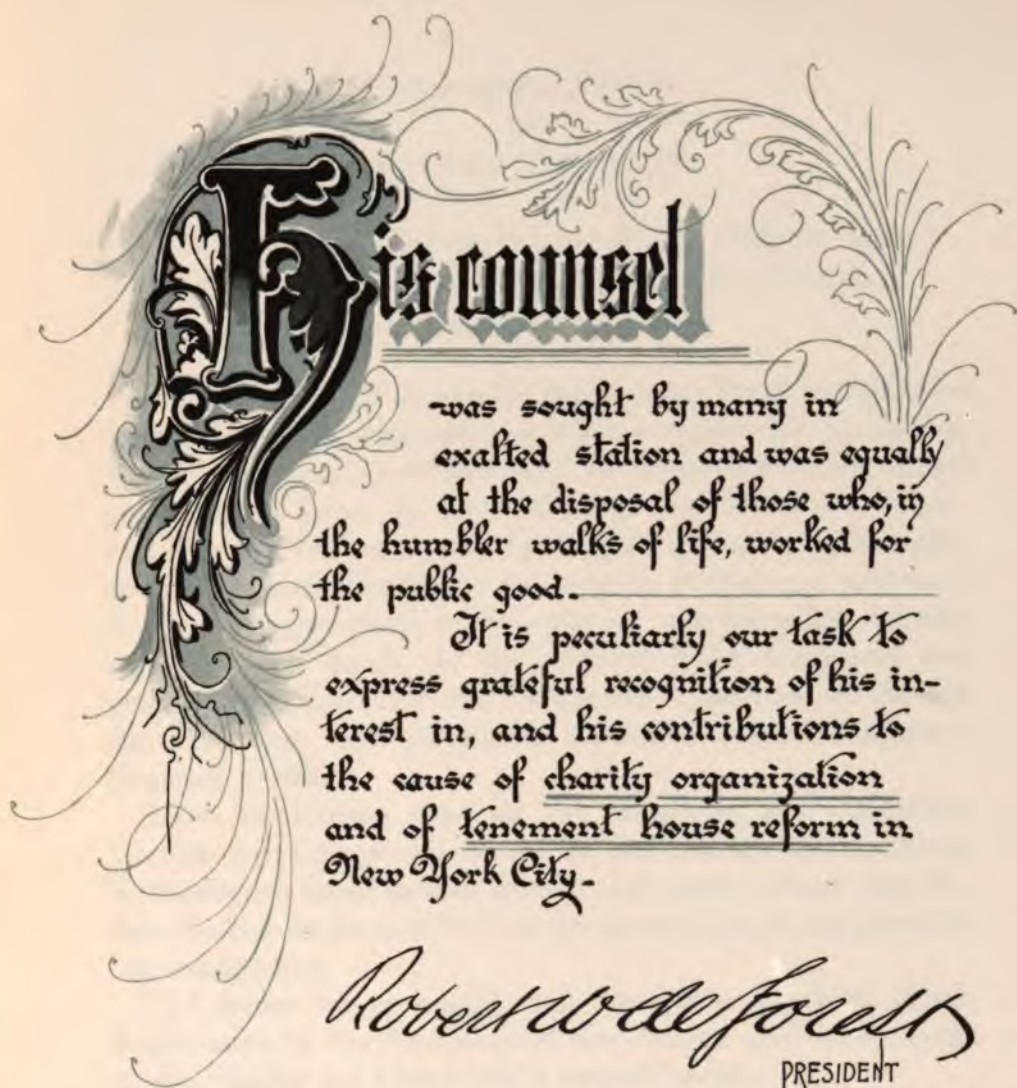
was sought by many in exalted station and was equally at the disposal of those who, in the humbler walks of life, worked for the public good.

It is peculiarly our task to express grateful recognition of his interest in, and his contributions to the cause of charity organization and of tenement house reform in New York City.

*Robert W. de Forest*  
PRESIDENT

*Edward T. Devine*  
GENERAL SECRETARY





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*Robert W. de Forest*  
PRESIDENT

*Edward T. Devine*  
GENERAL SECRETARY



DEUTSCHER VEREIN  
DER  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITÄT

*Beschluss* angenommen in einer am 12. Oktober 1903  
gehaltenen Versammlung des Deutschen Vereins  
der Columbia Universität

DA Gott der Herr unsern lieben Freund Friedrich Wilhelm Holls, ein höchst angesehenes Ehrenmitglied des Deutschen Vereins der Columbia Universität, in seinen liebevollen Schutz genommen,—ferner, da Herr Holls als Staatsmann und Diplomat stets als Vertreter jener Ideale galt, deren Verwirklichung dem Amerikanischen Volke als hehrste Pflicht und schönstes Verdienst angerechnet wird,—und da wir denselben Idealen huldigen, weil durch sie des Lebens Bahn bereichert und geadelt wird, sowol für den Bürger im Privatleben als für den der die taten- und ruhmvolle Laufbahn eines öffentlichen Beamten erwählt,—

Sei es beschlossen, dass wir, die Mitglieder des Deutschen Vereins der Columbia Universität, der Familie des verehrten Verstorbenen unser tiefstes Beileid und unsere warm empfundene Teilnahme an dem Verlust, der sie sowie auch uns getroffen hat, ausdrücken.

Und ferner sei es beschlossen, dass eine Abschrift dieses Beschlusses in das Vereinsbuch eingetragen und eine zweite an die Familie des Herrn Holls gesandt werde.

WM. H. CARPENTER,  
*Präsident*

G. A. YOUNGER,  
*Sekretär*

[Translation on following page]



*Resolutions* adopted at a regular meeting of the Deutscher Verein of Columbia University, held on October 12, 1903

INASMUCH as it hath pleased the Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call to Himself our beloved friend Frederick William Holls, a highly respected honorary member of the Deutscher Verein of Columbia University; and

*Whereas*, In the exercise of his talents as a statesman and a diplomat, Mr. Holls continually appeared as the champion of those ideals, the striving toward which must ever be regarded by the American people as a bounden duty, and the ultimate realization of which will reflect the greatest honor upon our country; and

*Whereas*, We too have faith in these ideals which enrich and ennoble human life for the private citizen as well as for one who is actively engaged in the service of his country and his people; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we, the members of the Deutscher Verein of Columbia University, express our deep and heartfelt sympathy with the bereaved relatives in the great loss which they and we have sustained; and be it further

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the society, and that a copy be sent to the relatives of our deceased member.

WM. H. CARPENTER,  
*President*

G. A. YOUNGER,  
*Secretary*



*The Board of Directors  
of the*

## **Legal Aid Society**

*desirous of expressing their great sorrow at the  
death of*

### **Mr. Frederick M. Moller**

*and to give evidence of their sympathy with his  
bereaved family, have ordered at the regular  
meeting held the twenty-second day of October  
1903, that the following be entered on the minutes  
of the Society.*

**Resolved,** *that the Board received with deep  
sorrow the announcement of the untimely death  
which took place on July twenty-third last of  
our valued friend*

and mourns the loss of one who as

Director, Acting President and Vice President  
of the Society was at all times ready to de-  
vote his time and energy to the furtherance  
of its object.

We sincerely condole with the bereaved  
family and direct the Secretary to send  
them a copy of this memorial signed by  
the President and Secretary.

Arthur v. Briesen

President

Chas. F. Wicbush.

Secretary.  
p. 2.



***Resolved,*** That in the death of Frederick William Holls, which occurred at Yonkers on July 23, 1903, this board has lost an able member and the Music Hall Company a firm friend. Mr. Holls was one of the incorporators of the Music Hall Company, one of the original members of this board; was elected secretary of the company at its first meeting in May, 1889, and retained that office until the date of his death.

This board recognized in Mr. Holls a man of lofty ideals, with great tenacity of purpose and courage of conviction. He discharged with marked ability the duties of a public-spirited citizen, and his ever-widening sphere of action made him useful alike to city, country, and humanity.

NEW YORK, December 7, 1903

WM. B. TUTHILL,  
*Secretary pro tem.*

[From the *London Times*]

Our Paris correspondent writes:—The death of the American jurisconsult Mr. Frederick Holls, one of the most brilliant delegates at The Hague Conference and one of the chief founders of the International Court, at the very moment when arbitration is receiving the final sanction of English, French, and American statesmen, is, indeed, a melancholy coincidence. I made Mr. Holls's acquaintance at The Hague, and since then a warm friendship had existed between us. I frequently had opportunities not only of hearing his views on the future of arbitration, in which he had robust faith, but also of observing his almost fanatic devotion to the idea of an alliance between the two great Anglo-Saxon races.

Mr. Holls's book on the Peace Conference, published some three years ago, is the most complete work of the kind that has appeared. Speaking of the International Court, he avowed his conviction that the "Peace Conference accomplished a great and glorious result, not only in the humanizing of warfare and the codification of the laws of war, but, above all, in the promulgation of the *Magna Charta* of international law, the binding together of the civilized powers in a federation for justice, and the establishment of a permanent international tribunal of arbitration." Mr. Holls contributed so largely and with such fervent zeal to the creation of the International Court that it may fairly be said that in no small measure it owed its existence to him. An incident occurred during the conference when the energetic intervention of Mr. Holls may be considered to have saved The Hague meeting from ship-

wreck. Germany had never looked with favor on the Peace Conference. Nobody present at The Hague can have forgotten the attitude which the chief German delegate, Prince (then Count) Münster took up at an early stage of the proceedings, and maintained till the end. It was one of haughty contempt for what was being done, and presumably reflected the views of his sovereign. Germany raised objections to the proposed permanent Court of Arbitration, affecting to regard it as an innovation of a most radical character which could not be introduced without great risks and even great dangers. It was, I believe, on this occasion that Mr. Holls went secretly to Germany, saw Prince Hohenlohe, and said to him: — "The special train is ready. All the powers have taken their seats. If Germany refuses to accompany them they will go without her." Prince Hohenlohe made pressing representations to the Emperor, with the result that Germany waived the difficulties she had raised and the conference continued. Plain speaking, such as that employed by Mr. Holls on this occasion, goes further even with Germany than some distinguished English statesmen seem to be aware of.

Mr. Holls was the author of that paragraph on special mediation which forms part of The Hague Convention. Only last month I had a fresh proof of Mr. Holls's good feeling towards England. He wrote to me that relations between England and America continued to be of the very best, notwithstanding the cloud on the horizon in the far northwest of Canada.

He added: — "More than 200,000 Americans have gone there to take up the new wheat lands, selling their own farms in the United States, and buying the new lands in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Assiniboia at nominal prices, so that they start with a surplus and a good opportunity. But they are all attached to the United States: and, while they become Cana-



dian citizens in order to have a vote, those who are best qualified to judge and who have been up there among them assure me that, sooner or later, there is likely to be a movement for secession.—The dispute about the Alaska boundary bids fair to take a secondary place in the discussion of the greater problem. It seems to me that it is all the more incumbent upon reasonable men in both countries to keep their heads clear, and especially to prevent any European powers from meddling or raising greater troubles than may arise in the natural course of events. A fundamental fact is that no one in the United States covets one square inch of Canadian territory against the wishes of the inhabitants, and no one here would consider a quarrel with Great Britain as anything less than the greatest calamity. My own feeling is that if at any time portions of Canada might wish to unite with this country, that very fact might easily be utilized as a basis for the formation of an Anglo-Saxon alliance which would dominate the policy of the world for peace and would forever avert all danger that might threaten either country from its invidious enemies.”

I would only add one word to the above evidence of Mr. Holls's devotion and signal service to the cause of arbitration, as well as of his friendship for England. It is that both sprang from a wider knowledge of European affairs than is possessed by most Americans, and from a great-heartedness that cannot fail to be recognized by all those who had the privilege of knowing him as intimately as I did. During one of his last European tours Mr. Holls was received in private audience by the Emperor Francis Joseph and the German Emperor, and on a previous occasion he had been received by the Tsar.















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